

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 5, 7, 10 and 11 are pending in the present application, and are rejected. Claim 1 is herein amended. No new matter has been presented.

**Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112**

Claims 1, 5, 7, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Examiner asserts that the addition of copolymers other than the copolymer of (meth) acrylic amide with (meth) acrylic acid is new matter.

Applicants herein amend claim 1 to clarify the invention. Subsequently, Applicants submit that the amendment removes the matter previously objected to.

The claim now clearly recites that the composition (b3) includes 5~90 weight % of poly(meth)acrylic acid polymer (b2) having a polymerization degree of 30 to 3000 ... wherein the poly(meth)acrylic acid polymer (b2) has a degree of neutralization of 3-15%.

Such clarification is supported in the specification at least on page 13, lines 8-24. Therefore, Applicants submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs, are overcome.

Application No. 10/810,587  
Attorney Docket No. 042234

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111  
Amendment filed March 11, 2008

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**



Kenneth H. Salen  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 43,077  
Telephone: (202) 822-1100  
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

KHS/mra